

A note from Dianne

In my last message, I shared many of my reflections as well as my hopes for the future of the Sanctuary. I continue to be grateful for all our many volunteers and our Board of Directors but, especially you! The work and care of the wild horses here has not skipped a beat as I 'handed the reins' to our current board and you have continued your loyal support!

I have often written to you as I enjoyed the view of the horses from my window and now, as I hear them whinny and frolic, I am in awe of their beauty, majesty and resilience. They remind me of what's possible when we care and show love for sentient beings. It was heartwarming when many wrote to say that they missed hearing from me. So, henceforth, I will contribute to our regular mailings.

I trust you are enjoying some sense of normalcy after such a long shut down with COVID. I do hope you'll continue to be careful though!

I will never find words adequate to express the depth of my gratitude for you and all who carry the load involved in caring for our beautiful wild horses.



Laurie loves selfies with Roscoe.

Volunteer Spotlight – Laurie Averill

Eight years ago, Laurie Averill toured the Wild Horse Sanctuary, "fell in love", and promised she'd volunteer when she moved from Livermore, CA to Shingletown. She made good on her promise five years later. Laurie headed to the Sanctuary the very first weekend in their new home and for the last three years, she's spent every Saturday (and other days, too) helping with feeding, greeting guests, clearing brush, cleaning water troughs, mucking pens (where youngsters in training reside), and gentling mustangs in preparation for adoption. Laurie says her favorite thing to do at the Sanctuary is simply observing the wild ones interacting with each other; learning more about their personalities, hierarchy, and social structure. She says, "Anyone who comes here leaves with a little better understanding of the importance of keeping our Mustangs, a national treasure, safe and free."

Those who know Laurie joke that she is a "professional volunteer" and all know her as an animal lover. For 40 years, she's helped at local animal shelters, wildlife rehabilitation centers, and 4-H Clubs. Laurie has been with the University of the Pacific School of Dentistry in San Francisco for 35 years. She is most proud of her "true job", which was raising her two children with husband, Mike, who Laurie describes as "the best man and so supportive of my crazy, busy lifestyle."

"The wild horses and the burros are amazing and have a very special place in my heart. My love for Bandit (a young, permanent resident) is like no other but the burros, with their cute, long ears, they might be my favorites. When you come for a visit, call out Roscoe's name and when he comes up for a scratch, you will see why!"



Luna and Arrow arrived this summer.

Director Spotlight – Carolyn Coates, Secretary

Carolyn Coates moved from North Dakota to California with her parents and siblings in 1960. Life was hard for the family of 7 in North Dakota and her parents joked that if they were going to starve, they would at least be warm... Carolyn has been married to her husband, Michael, for almost 43 years. They have two grown daughters and two beautiful grandchildren. Their household currently consists of 4 dogs who range in age from 4 to 14 years old, a fancy goldfish, and a desert tortoise named Myrtle, who has been in their family for over 40 years. Carolyn's little girl fantasy came true a year and a half ago when she added Buzz, a flea-bitten grey Quarter Horse, to her family. Carolyn and Buzz enjoy time together on the trail and in the arena.

Animals in general, but more specifically dogs and horses, have always been her passion and she's been fortunate to make both part of her everyday life, while giving back. Despite having 4 dogs of her own, Carolyn has been fostering for a rescue (Pups and Pals) for 8 years and has fostered over 90 dogs within that time. Sometimes it's just a single extra dog while other times it's been a litter of up to 8 puppies.

Carolyn discovered the Wild Horse Sanctuary through articles in the Los Angeles Times and the AAA Travel Magazine. She placed both in her "someday file". Shortly before retiring from Nokia, where Carolyn worked for 42 years, "someday" came and she booked a 2-day trail ride. After her Wild Horse Sanctuary experience, there was no looking back. Carolyn booked 4 additional rides the following year and signed on as a volunteer. When asked what she likes about the Sanctuary, Carolyn responded, "I love the comradery and friendships made; not only with fellow volunteers but with the guests who visit. I love seeing how the spirit and horses at the Sanctuary affect people and how they can become one with nature and self if they only open themselves up to it."

Thank you for your dedication to the Wild Horse Sanctuary, Carolyn!



Carolyn Coates and Mustang, Paddy, partners in the 2022 ROTH clinic.

New Solar Well Pump

As of this September, our new solar well pump is up and running! Two generous donors covered the cost of materials (almost \$6,000) and three hard working volunteers handled the installation. We are so grateful!

Volunteers were able to tap in to an existing well that had been unused for many years. Once set up, calibrated, and running, volunteers determined that under full, bright sunlight the pump can produce 4-5 gallons of water per minute. We estimate being able to pump approximately 3,000 gallons a day from this well, which will fill all of the water troughs that the wild horses and burros rely on when natural sources dry up without spending a penny on electricity! This works out perfectly as research during the summer of 2022 showed that the wild animals on the Sanctuary consume between 2,000 and 2,500 gallons of water per day. Plans are already underway to direct any overflow to an existing pond, which will keep it usable for longer and will allow the natural water cycle to continue.

The solar well pump is the latest addition in our ongoing efforts to conserve energy and funds, increase our self-sufficiency, and reduce our environmental footprint.

We are very proud to share that the Sanctuary has been powered mostly through solar energy since 2007. The solar panels were acquired through series of rebates from the State of California and qualified volunteers generously donated their time to install the entire system with very little out of pocket expense. As a result, we've been able to significantly reduce our energy expense over the years. We ended calendar year 2021 with a credit from PG&E of just over \$1,000 and are currently on track to end 2022 with a credit balance as well!



How you can help

Visit our website for more information:
wildhorsesanctuary.org

Make a donation

No amount too small! Use the donation form on the back page or donate online.

Planned Giving

A gift through your will, trust, or retirement plan will help the Wild Horse Sanctuary continue to provide a safe haven for these iconic symbols of the American West.

Donate your unused gift cards

Do you have unused gift cards? Donate the balance to the Wild Horse Sanctuary! Visit the *How You can Help* page on our website for details.

Shop our online store

Logo t-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, water bottles, tote bags, ball caps and visors available in a wide array of colors and sizes.

Volunteer

Whether you are a horse person, love outdoor projects, or like working on ranch projects, we would love to hear from you.



The
**Wild
Horse**
Sanctuary
2023
CALENDAR

2023 calendars are here!

Beauty and majesty through their eyes and camera lens....

In a collaborative effort, photographers Katey Barrett and Erin Crossman, share their artistry, which beautifully captures the essence of the wild horses and burros living at the Wild Horse Sanctuary.

The 2023 calendar features a selection of images taken throughout the years.


Order today! Calendars are available online at: wildhorsesanctuary.org/store

All proceeds from this calendar go directly to the Wild Horse Sanctuary.

Our 2023 calendar features 12 stunning color photos.



Learn more about Erin Crossman at ErinCrossmanphotography.com
Learn more about Katey Barrett at kateybarrettphotography.com



P.O. Box 30, Shingletown, CA 96088

www.wildhorsesanctuary.org

501(c)(3) Tax ID 95-3611770

info@wildhorsesanctuary.org

530-474-5770

Wild Horse Sanctuary Contribution and Order Form

Yes, I want to help!

Enclosed is a check for:

- \$50 to feed one unsponsored horse for one month
- \$150 to feed one unsponsored horse for three months
- \$600 to feed one unsponsored horse for a full year
- \$110 for one mineral supplement tub
- \$55 to one dewormer block
- \$18 for each calendar (includes S&H)

Contributions are tax deductible #95-3611770

Name _____


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 **Please make checks payable to the Wild Horse Sanctuary**
Mail to: P.O. Box 30, Shingletown, CA 96088

 **Online:** Donate or purchase merchandise at www.wildhorsesanctuary.org

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Protecting and Preserving Freedom for America's Wild Horses



November | 2022

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“We love that our students have such rich experiences at the WHS; connection with the horses and a safe and beautiful space for deep personal reflection and growth.”

- Tanner Jobe
Natural Lifemanship trainer



ROTH CA Wild Horse Gentling 2022

Dear Friend of the Sanctuary,

Mornings here at the Wild Horse Sanctuary are chilly and the leaves are changing color. As we welcome fall, we look back at what we have accomplished this past year and look toward our goals that will sustain the Sanctuary's herd in a manner fitting America's iconic wild horses.

We are pleased to share our progress in improving the health and welfare of the wild horses and burros – a testament to the dedication of our volunteers and the continued support of friends like you.

This past year, we:

- Fed hay, rice straw, and mineral supplement throughout the year. One generous donor has provided the supplement tubs each of the past 7 years.
- Cleared brush along fence lines and removed dead trees for fire abatement.
- Hosted 29 people for Natural Lifemanship trainings in June and September.
- Welcomed Reach Out To Horses (ROTH) in August. Anna Twinney and her clinic participants worked with thirteen young wild ones.
- Reopened our gates for private tours.
- Welcomed interns, the first since the pandemic, from Florida, Washington, and Germany.
- Took in six horses in need: three from our partners at 3 Sisters Equine (Astrid, Luna, and Luna's foal Arrow) and three Devil's Garden geldings (Jericho, Amigo, and 3 Socks).
- Completed installation of solar panels that power a well, which provides water to the wild horses when natural water sources go dry.

Hay continues to be our largest expense. The alfalfa that we have fed for many years cost \$78,000 from July 2021 through June 2022. With the rising cost of alfalfa and the diminishing supply, we contracted instead for a triticale / oat blend. The cost will be \$96,000 for the year, which is still an increase of 23%. As the cost of hay and its delivery continues to rise, we are exploring ways to increase native grasses on the Sanctuary's acreage, thereby decreasing our dependence on purchased hay.

We are grateful every day for the donations of time and money that allow the Sanctuary to be a haven for the horses and burros. With your continued help, our beautiful Mustangs will continue to thrive and the Sanctuary will continue to play an active role in providing a safe and secure home for wild horses that have nowhere else to go.

From all of us at the Sanctuary...thank you!

Elizabeth Palmer
President, Wild Horse Sanctuary